

# **Del. to Issue Emergency Benefits for July to All SNAP Households, Eligible TANF and General Assistance Households**

NEW CASTLE (July 27, 2021) – The Delaware Division of Social Services will issue emergency benefits for July to eligible households as part of the state's ongoing response to the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Benefits will be issued as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and two cash assistance programs – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and General Assistance (GA). The SNAP emergency food benefit will be issued Wednesday, July 28, and should be available on recipients' Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards Thursday, July 29. TANF and GA households should receive an emergency cash benefit check on or after Wednesday, July 28.

All households with open SNAP cases will receive at least \$95 in emergency food benefits, to be issued as follows:

1. SNAP households receiving the maximum food benefit amount for their household size will receive \$95 in emergency food benefits.
2. SNAP households with a calculated emergency food benefit amount less than \$95 will have their emergency benefit increased to \$95.
3. SNAP households with a calculated emergency benefit amount of \$95 or more will continue to receive the calculated emergency benefit amount to increase the household's monthly benefit up to the maximum benefit amount for their household size.

The emergency assistance for TANF and GA families will

increase a household's monthly benefit for each program up to the maximum benefit amount for their household size. Households that already receive the maximum TANF or GA benefit amount or that have a prorated benefit in the month of July are not eligible for the July emergency cash funds.

The Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) has issued emergency benefits each month to eligible households as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, which was signed into law in March 2020.

"We are committed to helping vulnerable, low-income Delawareans during the public-health emergency created by the pandemic," said DHSS Secretary Molly Magarik. "This emergency assistance enables individuals and families to meet basic living expenses, buy food that supports a nutritious diet, and provides temporary help for adults with minor children as the family works to become self-supportive."

How the monthly emergency benefit is calculated: A household's monthly emergency benefit equals the current maximum benefit amount for the household size minus the household's current monthly benefit amount. For example, based on current USDA limits for SNAP benefits, if a household of one gets \$100 in regular monthly benefits, that household will receive \$134 in emergency benefits (\$234 maximum benefit minus \$100 monthly benefit).

Here are the current maximum monthly benefit amounts per household size for SNAP, TANF, and General Assistance:

## Emergency SNAP Benefits

<b>Number in SNAP Household</b>	<b>Household Maximum Benefit Amount <i>Adjusted with the 15 percent increase effective Jan-Sept. 2021</i></b>
1	\$234

2	\$430
3	\$616
4	\$782
5	\$929
6	\$1,114
7	\$1,232
8	\$1,408
Each additional person	\$176

An estimated 52,817 Delaware households will receive the emergency SNAP allotment in July, totaling about \$10 million in emergency food benefits for the month.

## Emergency Cash Benefits

### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Number in TANF Household	Maximum Benefit Amount
1	\$201
2	\$270
3	\$338
4	\$407
5	\$475
6	\$544
7	\$612
8	\$681
9	\$750
10	\$819

### General Assistance (GA)

Number in GA Household	Maximum Benefit Amount
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1	\$79
2	\$107
3	\$144
4	\$169
5	\$209
6	\$239

An estimated 162 households will be eligible to receive emergency cash assistance benefits in July, totaling about \$21,500 in emergency benefits for the month.

In addition to the emergency benefits, households will receive their regular benefits for July on the usual issuance dates. For more information about DSS's benefit programs in response to the pandemic, go to the [division's webpage](#). To apply for benefits, go to DHSS' online application [portal Delaware ASSIST](#) or call 1-866-843-7212. To reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, clients are asked to contact the Division of Social Services by phone or online.